

## Message Text

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FOR HODDING CARTER FROM S/PRS

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TAGS: SOPN, OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS R.)

SUBJECT: EVENING TRAVELLING PRESS SUMMARY, AUGUST 1

NO. 4

WIRE SERVICES

UPI -- JIM ANDERSON FROM ALEXANDRIA

LEAD: "PRESIDENT SADAT SAID MONDAY HE WAS 'MORE THAN OPTI-  
MISTIC' AS HE BEGAN HIS TALKS WITH SECSTATE VANCE ON DETAILS  
OF A MIDEAST PEACE CONFERENCE."

OTHER POINTS:

-- US OFFICIALS SAID IF TALKS FAIL, ONLY ALTERNATIVE IS  
INCREASED TENSION AND A POSSIBLE RENEWED WAR.

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-- VANCE SAID HE WAS BRINGING SOME AMERICAN IDEAS, BUT US  
OFFICIALS WOULD NOT ADD ANY DETAILS.

-- REPORTERS ON PLANE WERE TOLD THERE CAN BE NO CONVENING OF  
GENEVA CONFERENCE UNTIL BASIC PROCEDURAL ISSUES -- I.E.  
PALESTINIAN REPRESENTATION -- ARE SETTLED.

BILITY ON PALESTINIAN QUESTION, AND HE WAS EXPECTED TO  
PROPOSE SEVERAL POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS.

-- SOURCES ALSO SAID THEY HOPED VANCE COULD HELP SOLVE SOME SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES AS WELL, BUT THESE COULD BE LEFT FOR GENEVA. PROCEDURAL QUESTIONS, HOWEVER, HAD TO BE SOLVED PRIOR TO CONFERENCE OPENING.

REUTERS -- ROY GUTMAN FROM ALEXANDRIA

LEAD: "SECSTATE VANCE ARRIVED HERE TODAY TO MEET PRESIDENT SADAT AT THE START OF A 6-NATION MIDEAST TOUR TO COAX A RESUMPTION OF ARAB-ISRAELI PEACE TALKS IN GENEVA."

OTHER POINTS:

-- VANCE, WHO APPEARED CAUTIOUSLY OPTIMISTIC, SAID HE WAS THERE TO SPEED PROGRESS TOWARD GENEVA AND MOVE TOWARD JUST AND LASTING PEACE.

-- SENIOR OFFICIAL ON VANCE PLANE GAVE IMPRESSION OF OPTIMISM THAT CONFRONTATION STATES AND ISRAEL WOULD BE FLEXIBLE ON KEY PALESTINIAN QUESTION. SAID SADAT HAD ALREADY SHOWN CONSIDERABLE FLEXIBILITY; HOPED BEGIN WOULD ALSO BE FLEXIBLE.

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-- OFFICIAL SAID OTHER PROCEDURAL QUESTIONS ALSO REMAINED TO BE SETTLED, AND EXPECTED DISCUSSIONS ON THESE MATTERS TO CONTINUE WHEN VANCE MEETS MIDEASTERN FOREIGN MINISTERS AT UNGA NEXT MONTH.

-- WHILE EMPHASIS IS ON PROCEDURAL QUESTIONS, OFFICIAL SAID VANCE WOULD TRY TO REACH AS MUCH ADVANCE AGREEMENT AS POSSIBLE ON SUBSTANTIVE MATTERS, ALTHOUGH HE NOTED THAT THERE WAS A REAL POSSIBILITY THE PARTIES WOULD GO TO GENEVA WITHOUT ADVANCE AGREEMENT ON SUBSTANCE.

-- OFFICIAL CONFIRMED A SHIFT IN US STRATEGY ON GENEVA AWAY FROM ATTEMPT TO REACH CLEAR IDEA OF WHAT CONFERENCE WOULD ACCOMPLISH IN ADVANCE. ONE AUTHORITY IN WASHINGTON SAID SHIFT CAME BECAUSE OF "RECOGNITION THAT IT WOULD BE EASIER TO BRING INFLUENCE TO BEAR ON THE BEGIN GOVERNMENT AT THE CONFERENCE TABLE THAN IN THE OVAL OFFICE."

AP -- BARRY SCHWEID FROM ALEXANDRIA

LEAD: "SECSTATE VANCE BEGAN A NEW MIDEAST MISSION MONDAY NIGHT, EXPLORING WITH PRESIDENT SADAT INDIRECT WAYS OF REPRESENTING THE PALESTINIANS IN ARAB-ISRAELI NEGOTIATIONS."

OTHER POINTS:

-- SENIOR US OFFICIAL TOLD REPORTERS QUESTION OF PALESTINIAN REPRESENTATION "IS ONE OF THE HARD NUTS THAT HAVE TO BE CRACKED." ONE IDEA BEING CONSIDERED IS HAVING PLO NAME WEST BANK PALESTINIANS AS PART OF JORDANIAN DELEGATION; ANOTHER WOULD INVOLVE PLO ATTENDANCE AT GENEVA AS AN OBSERVER, AS AT UN.

-- OTHER ISSUES TO BE DISCUSSED INCLUDE DEFENSIBLE BORDERS FOR ISRAEL, RETURN OF OCCUPIED TERRITORIES, A PALESTINIAN UNCLASSIFIED

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HOMELAND, AND THE DEFINITION OF PEACE.

-- EGYPTIAN OFFICIALS NOW WAITING TO SEE WHETHER CARTER IS WILLING AND ABLE TO PUT PRESSURE ON ISRAEL TO COMPROMISE.

NETWORKS

NBC

JOHN CHANCELLOR: SECRETARY OF STATE VANCE ARRIVED IN EGYPT TODAY--THE FIRST STOP ON A MIDDLE EAST TOUR OF ARAB COUNTRIES AND ISRAEL. THE OBJECTIVE OF THE VANCE MISSION IS TO ESTABLISH AREAS OF ARAB-ISRAELI AGREEMENT WHICH COULD LEAD TO A MIDDLE EAST PEACE CONFERENCE IN GENEVA, POSSIBLY THIS AUTUMN. VANCE'S FIRST DISCUSSION WAS WITH PRESIDENT ANWAR SADAT. RICHARD VALERIANI IS WITH THE SECRETARY'S PARTY AND HERE, BY SATELLITE, IS HIS REPORT.

VALERIANI: SECRETARY VANCE BEGAN HIS MIDDLE EAST MISSION IN ALEXANDRIA, WHERE PRESIDENT SADAT HAS HIS SUMMER RESIDENCE. HE WAS GREETED HERE BY FOREIGN MINISTER FAHMI. VANCE BROUGHT WITH HIM SPECIFIC AMERICAN PROPOSALS FOR RECONVENING THE GENEVA PEACE CONFERENCE AND ARRANGING AN AGENDA FOR ARAB-ISRAELI NEGOTIATIONS. HE WILL DISCUSS THOSE PROPOSALS IN DETAIL IN SEPARATE MEETINGS WITH FAHMI AND SADAT TOMORROW AFTER A GENERAL DISCUSSION WITH THE EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT TONIGHT. VANCE'S AIRPORT ARRIVAL STATEMENT STRUCK AN OPTIMISTIC NOTE.

VANCE: WE WILL BE HAVING OUR DISCUSSIONS HERE IN ALEXANDRIA TO SEE WHAT WE CAN DO TO SPEED THIS PROCESS AND TO MOVE TOWARD A JUST AND LASTING PEACE. I PARTICULARLY WELCOME THE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE MY FIRST STOP ON THIS TRIP UNCLASSIFIED

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HERE TO MEET WITH PRESIDENT SADAT, A GREAT LEADER, A GREAT STATESMAN, AND WITH MY GOOD FRIEND THE FOREIGN MINISTER.

VALERIANI: VANCE IS STAYING AT THE PALESTINE HOTEL BUT

THERE IS NO SYMBOLISM ATTACHED TO IT. EVEN THOUGH VANCE'S TALKS WILL FOCUS ON THE PROBLEM OF REPRESENTATION FOR THE PALESTINIANS IN GENEVA, U.S. OFFICIALS HAVE RULED OUT ANY CONTACT WITH THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION DURING VANCE'S TRIP. SADAT HAS HIS OWN IDEAS ABOUT HOW THE PALESTINIANS MIGHT BE REPRESENTED AT GENEVA EITHER AS OBSERVERS OR BY WEST-BANK ARABS PICKED BY THE PLO. VANCE IS BACK HERE PERSONALLY BECAUSE THE UNITED STATES IS DETERMINED TO PLAY A ROLE IN MIDDLE EAST DIPLOMACY BUT HE FEELS THAT ONLY HEADS OF GOVERNMENT CAN NOW MAKE THE KIND OF TOUGH DECISIONS THAT ARE NEEDED IN ORDER TO REVIVE A GENEVA CONFERENCE. WHILE ON THE FLIGHT FROM WASHINGTON, AMERICAN OFFICIALS INDICATED THAT VANCE MIGHT NOT GET ALL THE ANSWERS HE NEEDS DURING THIS TRIP, AND SO HE'S ALREADY LOOKING AHEAD TO ANOTHER ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS WHEN THE MIDDLE EAST PRIME MINISTERS GO TO NEW YORK FOR THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY NEXT MONTH.

CHANCELLOR: STEVE DELANEY OF OUR STAFF HAS BEEN COVERING THE ISRAELI STORY FOR THE LAST THREE YEARS AND HE HAS JUST COMPLETED A WEEK OR SO IN EGYPT. STEVE, WHAT'S THE ISRAELI ATTITUDE TOWARD PRESIDENT SADAT? ARE THERE ISRAELIS WHO REALLY BELIEVE HIM WHEN HE SAYS HE WANTS TO MAKE PEACE?

DELANEY: I THINK MOST OF THEM REMEMBER HIM AS THE ARCHITECT OF THE 1973 WAR AND AS THE POTENTIAL DECISIVE FACTOR IN ANOTHER ONE. THERE CAN'T BE ANOTHER WAR WITHOUT EGYPT; THE OTHER COUNTRIES CAN'T HANDLE ISRAEL ON THEIR OWN. I THINK SLOWLY THEY'RE COMING AROUND TO THE IDEA OF BEGINNING TO LISTEN TO WHAT HE IS SAYING ABOUT THE NEED FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND PEACE BY NEGOTIATION AT GENEVA. I UNCLASSIFIED

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DON'T THINK THEY CREDIT HIM QUITE ENOUGH WITH THE REALLY TERRIFIC NEEDS THAT HE HAS IN HIS COUNTRY TO ACCOMPLISH SOMETHING AT GENEVA, OR BY NEGOTIATION, OR SOMETHING. HIS ECONOMY IS A WRECK, AND IT WON'T GET BETTER UNTIL HE CAN GET WESTERN MONEY. HE WON'T GET WESTERN MONEY AS LONG AS IT'S AN UNSTABLE SITUATION THERE, AND HIS PEOPLE ARE TIRED OF FIGHTING FOR THE PALESTINIANS WHOM THEY DON'T REALLY LIKE ALL THAT MUCH.

CHANCELLOR: AND THE EGYPTIANS HAVE SHED A LOT OF BLOOD, MORE THAN ANYBODY ELSE IN THAT AREA, FOR THE PALESTINIANS. DELANEY: THEY POINT OUT THAT THEY HAVE WON MORE WAR THAN EVERYBODY ELSE HAS.

CHANCELLOR: NOW VANCE WON'T BE SEEING ANY PALESTINIANS ON THIS TRIP, BUT THEY ARE IN THERE NEVERTHELESS. WHAT'S YOUR GUESS, STEVE, WILL WE SEE PALESTINIANS IF THERE IS A GENEVA CONFERENCE AT GENEVA?

DELANEY: YES, YOU'LL SEE PALESTINIANS. YOU WON'T SEE OUT AND OUT MEMBERS OF THE PLO. IT'S BEEN TERRIBLY CONVENIENT FOR THEM TO SAY, WELL NOBODY CAN GO TO GENEVA BECAUSE THE ISRAELIS WON'T LET THE PLO IN AND THE ARABS INSIST. BUT NOW THAT THERE IS INTEREST IN GOING TO GENEVA, THEY CAN GET RID OF THIS PROCEDURAL QUESTION VERY QUICKLY, AND I THINK THEY MAY HAVE ALREADY DONE IT.

CHANCELLOR: INCIDENTALLY, STEVE, YOU'VE TALKED TO A LOT OF ISRAELI POLITICIANS. DO THEY REALLY BELIEVE THERE'S GOING TO BE A GENEVA CONFERENCE?

DELANEY: I THINK SO.

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CHANCELLOR: DO THEY WANT IT?

DELANEY: BEGIN WANTS TO DEAL ON HIS OWN. HE WANTS TO PLAY. HE WANTS TO SIT DOWN AT THE TABLE WITH THE ARABS AND NEGOTIATE WITH THEM. ON THE OTHER HAND, THEY ARE RELUCTANT TO GO TO GENEVA, ACCOMPLISH NOTHING, BREAK DOWN ALL THE EXPECTATIONS OF PROGRESS, AND THEREBY INCREASE THE CHANCES OF A NEW WAR.

CBS

ROGER MUDD: SECSTATE VANCE, EXPRESSING CAUTIOUS OPTIMISM, ARRIVED TODAY IN ALEXANDRIA, EGYPT, THE FIRST STOP ON HIS SIX-NATION MIDDLE EAST PEACE MISSION. BERNARD KALB REPORTS:

KALB:

THERE WAS NO WELCOMING CROWD, NO WELCOMING CEREMONY, ASIDE FROM A GREETING FROM FOREIGN MINISTER FAHMI. EGYPT IS NOW COUNTING ON THE UNITED STATES TO PRESSURE ISRAEL INTO MAKING CRITICAL CONCESSIONS TO MOVE THE MIDDLE EAST TOWARD PEACE, AND VANCE, IN BRIEF REMARKS, SET THE TONE FOR HIS VISIT.

(VANCE QUOTE CITED ABOVE)

KALB: NEXT, A GET-TOGETHER WITH PRESIDENT SADAT. THIS IS VANCE'S SECOND TRIP TO THE MIDDLE EAST. HE WAS HERE IN FEBRUARY, SPENT A LOT OF TIME LISTENING. THIS TIME HE'S BROUGHT SPECIFIC PROPOSALS, AIMED AT OVERCOMING THE OBSTACLES BLOCKING A GENEVA CONFERENCE. ONE MAJOR OBSTACLE: THE ROLE OF THE PLO IN ANY SUCH CONFERENCE. THE ISRAELIS WON'T NEGOTIATE WITH THE PLO; THE ARABS INSIST THAT THE PLO BE AT GENEVA. BUT INFORMED ARAB SOURCES HAVE INDICATED

THAT THE PLO WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO OBSTRUCT PROGRESS  
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TOWARD A MIDEAST SETTLEMENT. VANCE IS CONVINCED SADAT WANTS TO GO TO GENEVA, AND IN TAKING A FEW QUESTIONS FROM REPORTERS, SADAT SAID, "I AM MORE THAN OPTIMISTIC" ABOUT THE OUTCOME OF HIS NEGOTIATIONS, HIS TALKS WITH SECRETARY VANCE. VANCE SAID THAT ALL OF THE PARTIES HAVE INDICATED THAT THEY ARE EAGER TO GO TO GENEVA, AND TO GET ON WITH IT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

ABC

PETER JENNINGS: SECSTATE VANCE ARRIVED IN EGYPT A FEW HOURS AGO, THE FIRST OF SIX STOPS THAT HE WILL MAKE IN THE ARAB WORLD AND ISRAEL. MR. VANCE HAS THE UNENVIABLE JOB OF TRYING TO MOVE THE ARABS AND ISRAELIS CLOSER TO SOME SORT OF PEACE AGREEMENT. THIS REGION HAS NOT DEALT KINDLY IN THE PAST WITH DOZENS OF WELL-MEANING INTERNATIONAL STATESMEN, AND AT THE MOMENT THERE ISN'T MUCH OPTIMISM THAT MR. VANCE WILL IMPROVE THE RECORD. HERE'S OUR STATE DEPARTMENT CORRESPONDENT, BARRIE DUNSMORE:

DUNSMORE: SECRETARY VANCE CARRIED NONE OF THE BUBBLING OPTIMISM WHICH PRESIDENT CARTER SEEMS TO HAVE ABOUT CHANCES FOR CONVENING A MIDEAST PEACE CONFERENCE THIS FALL. IN HIS PUBLIC STATEMENTS, AND IN PRIVATE, VANCE STRESSES THE FUNDAMENTAL DIFFERENCES WHICH STILL EXIST AMONG THE PARTIES. HE WILL BE BRINGING AMERICAN IDEAS ON HOW TO RESOLVE SOME OF THE MAJOR ISSUES, BUT THESE IDEAS WILL NOT BE MADE PUBLIC, AS PRESIDENT CARTER HAS DECIDED TO ABANDON THE IDEA OF PUBLIC DIPLOMACY. HERE IN EGYPT, VANCE WILL HAVE A MORE SYMPATHETIC EAR THAN IN VIRTUALLY ANY OTHER STOP ALONG THE WAY. OF ALL THE LEADERS, PRESIDENT SADAT IS MOST ANXIOUS TO HAVE A PEACE CONFERENCE, AND THE US BELIEVES HE CAN MAKE A MAJOR CONTRIBUTION TO  
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FINDING A FORMULA FOR HANDLING THE PRESENT STUMBLING BLOCK TO A GENEVA CONFERENCE, REPRESENTATION FOR THE PALESTINIANS. WHATEVER OPTIMISM VANCE MAY HAVE SEEMS TO BE BASED ON THE BELIEF THAT THE MAJOR ARAB LEADERS, LED BY SADAT, CAN BE PERSUADED TO AT LEAST START TALKS IN GENEVA WITHOUT THE PLO.

JENNINGS: THOUGH THERE HAVE BEEN CONTACTS IN THE PAST

BETWEEN US OFFICIALS AND THE PLO, MR. VANCE SAID BEFORE LEAVING WASHINGTON HE DIDN'T EXPECT TO SEE ANY PALESTINIANS WHILE HE WAS IN THE MIDDLE EAST. FEW SUBJECTS, HOWEVER,

WILL OCCUPY HIS TIME AS FULLY AS THAT OF PALESTINIAN REPRESENTATION AT ANY GENEVA PEACE CONFERENCE. HOW TO ACCOMMODATE THE PALESTINIANS REMAINS THE KEY TO PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

ONLY A MINORITY OF PALESTINIANS NOW LIVE, AFTER 29 YEARS, IN REFUGEE CAMPS. THE REST, ALMOST 3 MILLION, LIVE FROM CALIFORNIA TO CAIRO. NO MATTER WHERE THEY LIVE, UNDER ISRAELI OCCUPATION OR WITH SOME OTHER NATION'S PASSPORT, THEY HAVE NOT FORGOTTEN, NOR WILL THEY BE ALLOWED TO FORGET, THEIR ROOTS. IN THE MIDDLE 60S WHEN PALESTINIAN GUERRILLA GROUPS WERE FIRST FORMED, THE CROWNING ACHIEVEMENT FOR THESE DISENFRANCHISED PEOPLE WAS TO BE THE LIBERATION OF PALESTINE, TODAY'S ISRAEL.

NO LONGER. THE GUERRILLAS HAVE NEVER HAD MUCH EFFECT INSIDE ISRAEL, AND TWICE IN THE LAST 8 YEARS, MOST RECENTLY IN THE CIVIL WAR IN LEBANON, HAVE SUFFERED SERIOUS SETBACKS AT THE HANDS OF THEIR FELLOW ARABS. RARELY IN THE 12-YEAR HISTORY OF THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION HAS ITS CHAIRMAN YASIR ARAFAT BEEN UNDER SUCH PRESSURE, FROM ISRAEL, ARAB STATES, AND THE UNITED STATES, TO COMPROMISE. MIDDLE EAST HISTORY IS CROWDED WITH EVIDENCE OF JUST HOW DISRUPTIVE A DESPERATE GROUP OF PEOPLE CAN BE.

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MOST PALESTINIANS ARE CONVINCED THAT THE WORLD IS LESS THAN COMMITTED TO AN INDEPENDENT PALESTINIAN STATE. SOME BELIEVE POLITICAL TERRORISM, INCLUDING ATTACKS ON CIVILIANS SUCH AS THE ONE ON THE ISRAELI SETTLEMENT OF MAALOT, IS A LEGITIMATE TACTIC FOR PEOPLE WHO IN ALMOST THIRTY YEARS HAVE NOT BEEN GIVEN THEIR OWN SENSE OF NATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY. IF THERE IS A PALESTINIAN PEOPLE, SAYS PRESIDENT CARTER, THERE MUST BE A PALESTINIAN TERRITORY. IT IS THAT ISSUE, MUCH MORE THAN OCCUPIED EGYPTIAN OR SYRIAN LAND, WHICH IS THE MAJOR OBSTACLE FOR MR. VANCE.

(BILL BRANNIGAN REPORT ON EGYPT'S INTERNAL SITUATION FOLLOWS.)

CHRISTOPHER

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